

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03758 161845Z

14

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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3758

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORT, UN, US, AU

SUBJ: AUSTRIAN VIEWS ON NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: VIENNA 7536

1. AUSTRIAN PERM REP JANKOWITSCH SPOKE TO VINCI GROUP MEETING AT CANADIAN MISSION, SEPTEMBER 15, CONCERNING NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT COLOMBO. JANKOWITSCH, AS USUAL GILDING THE NON-ALIGNED LILY, MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

2. THE COLOMBO SUMMIT WAS LESS IMPORTANT THAN ITS PREDECESSORS, AS INDICATED BY ITS INABILITY TO ATTRACT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT.

3. NEVERTHELESS, AND DESPITE AN INCREASE IN ITS MEMBERSHIP, AND IN ITS INTERNAL DIVERSITY, THE GROUP DOES CONTINUE TO EXIST AND PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE, JOINED TOGETHER BY CERTAIN COMMON MOTIVES. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, AREAS OF CONSENSUS HAVE BEEN REDUCED AS HAS THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT'S ROLE AS A MEDIATOR.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03758 161845Z

4. IN JANKOWITSCH'S VIEW, AREAS OF CONSENSUS INCLUDE VIEWS

ON DECOLONIZATION, ESPECIALLY SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND DISARMAMENT.

5. CONCERNING THE MIDDLE EAST, JANKOWITSCH STATED THAT IT BASICALLY WAS THE LIMA FORMULA ON ISRAELI SUSPENSION WHICH WAS ACCEPTED. EFFORTS WERE MADE TO AVOID EXACERBATING THE ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE (REFERENCES WERE, OF COURSE, PEPPERED WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH JANKOWITSCH SAYS THAT A STRONG LIBYAN BID TO HAVE EVEN MORE VICIOUS LANGUAGE APPROVED WAS BEATEN BACK). JANKOWITSCH ALLUDED TO INTENSIVE PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING LEBANON, ADDING THAT SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO KEEP LEBANON FROM ARISING AS AN ISSUE ALSO PREVENTED THE MIDDLE EAST AS A WHOLE FROM BEING A SOURCE OF PUBLICLY EXPRESSED NONALIGNED DIVISION.

6. KEY AREAS OF DISSENT INVOLVED THE FAR EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE ASEANS LEFT COLOMBO BITTER OVER THE FAILURE OF THEIR INITIATIVE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IOPZ RES REPRESENTED, IN JANKOWITSCH'S VIEW, A "GENUINE COMPROMISE".

7. THE ONLY IMPORTANT EUROPEAN QUESTIONS DISCUSSED WERE CYPRUS AND HELSINKI LANGUAGE CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN.

8. JANKOWITSCH NOTED THAT AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF TIME WAS DEVOTED TO PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY NACC DISCUSSION OF THE ROLE OF A SECRETARIAT AND MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA. HE VIEWED THE AFRICANS' PRESENCE IN THE NEW NACC AS CLEARLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN BEFORE.

9. JANKOWITSCH SPENT MUCH OF HIS TIME IN THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE IN COLOMBO AND, UNDERSTANDLY, BELIEVES THAT ECONOMIC SUBJECTS "DOMINATED" THE CONFERENCE. HE POINTED OUT PARTICULARLY MRS. BANDARANAIKE'S PROPOSALS, ADDING THAT "SOBERNESS" HAD THE UPPER HAND IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, WHERE DELEGATES WISHED THAT ON-GOING CONFERENCES AND PRESENT FORUMS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE PRINCIPAL AREAS FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

10. CONCLUDING, JANKOWITSCH DESCRIBED THE NON-ALIGNED AS "A CREATURE OF ITS OWN", ADDING THAT IT HAD NO REAL LEADERS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 03758 161845Z

BUTTHAT WELL-ORGANIZED MEMBERS CAN INFLUENCE ITS DECISIONS. NAM WILL NOT DISAPPEAR, ITS DIRECTION CONTINUALLY WILL CHANGE, AND BEST WE CAN DO IS TO CONTINUE TO OBSERVE THE MOVEMENT.

11. DURING SUBSEQUENT QUESTION PERIOD, ITALIAN PERM REP CRITICIZED MANY "NON-ALIGNED" AS NOT BEING NON-ALIGNED AT ALL. FURTHER, HE ATTACKED NON-ALIGNED PRE-PACKAGING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WITHOUT BENEFIT

OF WESTERN INPUT. JANKOWITSCH EXCUSED THE LATTER AS IN FACT BEING BENEFICIAL, OFFERING "AHEAD OF TIME" THE VIEWS OF THE AFRO-ASIAN GROUP. FURTHER, HE CHARACTERIZED THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESOLUTION AT COLOMBO AS INDICATIVE OF THE ABSENCE OF ANY ADVOCACY OF A PEACEFULLY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT ONLY INDIA WAS PUSHING A MONOPOLISTIC PRESS POOL; MOST OF THE THIRD WORLD SEE A NEW PRESS AGENCY AS ONE WHICH WILL COMPETE WITH RATHER, THAN REPLACE WESTERN AGENCIES. IN REPLY TO IRISH QUESTIONS, JANKOWITSCH NOTED THAT OTHERS DID NOT PUSH PAKISTAN'S ECONOMIC SUMMIT INITIATIVE AT COLOMBO, AND THAT THE NORTH KOREANS HAD OVERPLAYED THEIR HAND; ALTHOUGH THEY GOT WHAT THEY WISHED IN THE WAY OF LANGUAGE, MANY HAD EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS AND PERHAPS ONLY 60 PERCENT OF THE NAC MEMBERS FORMED THE KOREAN "CONSENSUS". REPLYING TO AUSTRALIAN QUESTIONS, JANKOWITSCH AGREED THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN INCREASED AMOUNT OF REGIONALIZATION IN THE DRAFTING PROCESS, AND THAT THE NON-ALIGNED RESOLUTION ON THE UN WAS NOT IMPORTANT.

12. MALTA DESCRIBED ITS ROLE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN RES AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NON-ALIGNED DRAFTING WAS RESPONSIVE TO PAST GA ACTIONS, RATHER THAN COMPETITIVE.

13. LASTLY, IN RESPONSE TO A FRENCH QUESTION, JANKOWITSCH CHARACTERIZED NAC CALL FOR EMBARGO AGAINST FRANCE AS "PRODUCT OF HALLUCINATION", WHICH HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE PRIOR TO ITS PASSAGE BY NAC PLENARY.

14. COMMENT: JANKOWITSCH IS AN OLD HAND AT ATTENDING NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS AND HAS ALWAYS DONE SO WITH GREAT PERSONAL ENTHUSIASM. HE HAS CONSISTENTLY SEEN NAM THROUGH ROSE-COLORED GLASSES, AND HAS NEVER SUFFERED NOTICEABLY
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 USUN N 03758 161845Z

FROM THE ONE SIDEDNESS OF NON-ALIGNED RESOLUTIONS AND THEIR EMPHASIS ON ATTACKING THE WEST, SPECIFICALLY THE US. FOR INSTANCE, HE WAS QUICK TO PRONOUNCE THE IOPZ RESOLUTION A BALANCED COMPROMISE AS BETWEEN THE TWO SUPERPOWERS. IN THE PAST HE TENDED TO BUILD UP NAM'S IMPORTANCE; THIS YEAR HE SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO HERALD ITS LACK OF IMPORTANCE BY STRESSING GROWING DIVISIONS WITHIN THE MOVEMENT.
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